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THE TRINITY TABLET.

VOL. III.

HARTFORD, CONN., JANUARY 25, 1869. 1870

No. I.

IN WINTER.

The streets are wild with charging gusts,
The world is white with snow,
And howling down their bleak ravines
The mountain torrents go ;
The angry breakers leap and roar
Like devils mad with glee ;
The fiends of storm are abroad to-night ;
God save the men at sea.

But draw the curtains close, my friends,
And pass the jest around,
And troll a catch to the Christmas time
Till the grey old roofs resound ;
The Old Year's gone—he brought us woe
And he brought us gaiety ;
We'll remember the last and forget the first
As we drink to his memory.

The broad, bright firelight softly broods
O'er ceiling, floor, and wall,
And tinkling out of the glowing grate
The golden embers fall ;
But Bob, and George, and Jack, my friends,
My comrades true and bold,
We'll not forget in our merriment,
God's poor are very cold.

INSTRUCTION IN ENGLISH.

Perhaps no single branch of instruction in the college course is of more practical advantage to the student than the study of the English language and its literature. It cannot be denied, as a general rule, that students upon entering college are either very poorly prepared in this particular branch of education or are not prepared at all. We are not among those who are of the opinion that a course of instruction in the English language is in a measure a use-

less expenditure of time, and that excellence in speaking or writing is more a matter of intuition than instruction. We are aware that there are such things as gifts of nature, and that in many instances they are wonderful in kind, but we are equally cognizant of the fact that there are also gifts of an acquired character which, by means of education and culture, can be made to equal those which nature has seen fit to bestow upon us.

We express no new idea when we say that it is the province of education to draw out the latent abilities which we may possess, to teach us to cultivate these hidden talents and thus make them of use to us both in a practical and an ornamental sense. That this is the result of instruction and education and culture none can deny. We have in this day of colleges and college education such a multiplicity of examples in this particular that to enumerate them would be useless. We are not so foolish as to place ourselves in a ridiculous position by arguing with those who should attempt to refute this fact, a fact whose truth is as clear as the sunlight and whose power is becoming more apparent every day. If then an education, broad and liberal in its tendencies, is a means by which latent ability and thought may receive a higher polish and a truer worth, of what value must be a thorough course of instruction in English to those who possess some natural abilities for the studies of this particular branch.

As concerns the practical benefits of a thorough education in that department of instruction under consideration, we assume that it will be readily granted that for those students who

purpose to enter the law or the ministry, the advantages acquired from a comprehensive knowledge of English, including the beneficial results of essay writing and public speaking, are as valuable as they are indispensable. As to those who intend to pursue the practice of medicine, or engage in business, with them also the benefits of an English course will be found to be of incalculable advantage. If for nothing more than the purpose of acquiring the means of expressing oneself in language at once choice and grammatical, the time expended will prove to have been well spent. In this free republic of America, where men are liable to be called upon every day to champion some political movement, or advance some public measure personally by their own influence and their own voice, it will at once be seen that the qualifications of an ability to speak with force and power, not only in public assemblies, but also in private gatherings, or to write articles and essays which shall express ably and pointedly what is desired to be said, are such as none can readily do without and which it will be of immense advantage to possess. Public speaking has become so much a second habit with Americans that we are liable at any time to be called upon to address a meeting or preside over an assembly, and is it not better that we should be well qualified and appear to advantage, than that like many public speakers of today we should talk with our mouths only, and not with our brains, our culture and our education?

Finally, that longing which every one of us possesses, or ought to possess, to be something outside of our business or profession, can be satisfied in no better way than by the literary culture and educational refinement which results from a complete and thorough drill in the studies of our mother tongue, not in its rudiments alone, but also in its general literature, so full of genuine earnest thought and true intellectual vigor. There is a life beyond the mere routine of business, or the drudgery of professional labors; and in the midst of the ma-

terialistic tendencies of the times, it is well for us to pause a moment and consider whether there is not some object worth striving for, besides the glittering generalities of garnered gold.

AQUATICA.

Now that the excitement created by the late international boat-race has subsided, boating matters seem to have ceased to be of interest to the community, and the public journals have become engrossed with other ephemeral and exciting topics. Sensations, like dogs, have their day. The controversies about the Alabama claims and Cuban gun-boats must be settled, and the Byron-towe scandal must have its run. The Snarleyow of boat racing has died a natural death, and now in its place Byron's poor Newfoundland is whistled out of his peaceful grave to amuse Mrs. Grundy and tax our editorial quill.

Poor Tray! but "little had he tho't,
His *dog days* were to be so short;
They laid him down beneath the sod,
As good a dog as ever trod."

Sic transit gloria mundi. The literary butchers are engaged in making magazine bolognas out of the carcass, by furiously debating the question whether "poor Tray" in his palmiest "dog days" was ringed, streaked or speckled. Thereby hangs a tale. As to ourselves we prefer "Uncle Tom's Cabin as it was."

The English journalists, like the English oarsmen in the race, seem to be several lengths ahead. The *onus probandi* evidently rests with the American Sorosis, but she sometimes dips her oar too deep, or skims over the surface too lightly to be successful. This style of rowing has resulted in her "catching a crab," and falling into the *Atlantic*. Byron's *wash* was too heavy for such a *stroke*. "*Ecce Femina!*"

Like Artemus in his lecture on "the babes in the woods," we mention these facts aside. *Revenons à nos moutons*, but not to "poor dog Tray." *Requiescat in pace.* Happy thought!

Whether mutton pies are better than canine turnovers is a question of *taste* between the "fat boy" in Pickwick, and John Chinaman. Speaking of Yellow Jack gives us a *cue* to something else, not billiards, however. This is what Hamilton calls "latent modifications." Here we have it. In making the excavations for the Brownell statue a curious looking manuscript was exhumed which bears incontrovertible signs of antiquity. At present it reposes safely in the mysterious archives of Seabury Hall, with many other wonderful things not yet exposed to the vulgar gaze. We are not aware that the chairman of the Pickwick club ever "gloated over the treasure" as he did over the blarney stone of "Bill Stumps," yet as the paper contains some important information that may be of use to antiquarians we give its contents in brief. The document which is dated A. D. 50 and is written in Choctaw, sets forth that the "fat boy" above referred to, "was one of three brothers" who came over to America some years ago and settled in York State. That he was related to Rip Van Winkle who was his cousin-*german*, and that he was also the father of the "Cardiff giant." The fact that he was related to Rip is proved by the analogy that exists between the name of the latter and that of Mr. Winkle, the great "sport" mentioned by Pickwick in the same connection, and further by the hereditary drowsiness which both possessed in such an eminent degree. That the "fat boy" was the father of the "Cardiff giant" is indisputably settled by the strawberry mark found on the giant's left arm. Prof. Gypsum, however, refers the imperfection to the bite of a young alligator. Some incredulous person has attempted to deprive science of this valuable paper by suggesting that it is the lost "sheepskin" of some old graduate, and that it is written in *Latin*. Like the venerable Mr. Pickwick, we treat the statement with deserved contempt, and vote such an "ill-conditioned Blotton" out of all learned societies. We have reason to believe that the "Fat Men's Ball,"

recently held in New York, was given in honor of the birth of the giant. But our thoughts wander. Let us resume. Although boating matters are not agitated just now in the newspapers, yet preparations are quietly going on among boating men in colleges and in the large cities for a display of timber and muscle in next summer's campaign never before equalled in this country. New shells, barges and wherries are being built. Boat houses are being refitted, while the gymnasias are often frequented by young men who are desirous of distinguishing themselves in coming aquatic contests. The courage of Harvard in measuring oars with Oxford has acted as a stimulus to the boating interests of American colleges.

The western cities have caught the fever, and Chicago, Milwaukie, Toledo, and Detroit are making arrangements for a magnificent regatta, which will come off at the latter place in June. Trinity rejoices in a new boat. It is not like "Old Noah's ark, fashioned out of hickory bark," nor is it like the bowl in which "the three wise men of Gotham went to sea." It is substantial and merely designed for practice. We hope the students will avail themselves of the opportunity now offered and achieve for themselves a reputation in muscle equal to that which they already possess in scholarship. We have plenty of idle sinews and broad shoulders among us to man a good shell in less than a year. Some prate of the neglect of studies which will ensue on the introduction of such manly sports. We admit that there is an extreme in everything; so too there is a golden medium. *Mens sana in corpore sano*, is an indispensable prerequisite for attaining good scholarship. We maintain that Trinity will be benefited not only *in esse*, by cultivating the physical powers of her present students, but *in futuro* by making her a popular institution. To this end we need the aid of the faculty and alumni of the college. One alumnus who has generously contributed to the purchase money of the new boat thus spiritedly expresses himself.

"Please present to your Club my warmest congratulations upon the success which thus far they have achieved in reviving the 'lost art' of boating in Trinity. Say to the young gentlemen also, that they may depend upon me to help them according to my ability in any further undertakings, aquatic or otherwise, looking towards the cultivation, through manly games or exercises of that very desirable but in our country much neglected gift, the healthy mind in the healthy body. May I not express the hope that the boat just purchased, may grow into a boat house, a shell or two, a barge, and a participation in the Worcester race of A. D. 1870." That is the kind of talk that we like to hear, especially when it comes well backed up by "stamps." Who is next? Now that the Spring is approaching we need and must have a boat house. If our friends expect us to put in a respectable appearance in boating we must have a shell. Shall we appeal in vain to those of the alumni who have the welfare of our Alma Mater at heart? Let us hear from *you*, and you shall soon hear from *us*.

FAVORS FOR A FRIEND.

While we were musing in our sanctum the other afternoon there came a mysterious scratching at our study door, whereupon we quickly obeyed the summons, and through the open portal who should walk in with a dignified tread but Xenophon Cheirisophus, otherwise known as "Phonie," the college dog. Upon his appearance we immediately ransacked our brain in order to discover the reason of this unwonted visit, thinking that we might perhaps have hurt his feelings in some unaccountable manner, and that he had come to take summary vengeance upon us, but his woe-begone and dogged expression belied the insinuation. We were not far from wrong when we concluded that he had come on an errand of justification, but it was of a nature greatly different from what we had at first supposed.

It seems that the exploits and catastrophies

of the college cat had some time since been catalogued in the columns of the TABLET, and Phonie had been patiently waiting to have full justice done to him in a similar manner, but at length all hope had died away, and he had made a special call upon us to see if we could not redress his grievances by writing an article for the college paper, thereby giving him the pleasure of seeing himself in print.

Quite a while since his name had been celebrated in the following doggerel lines by the "Euterpeans."

"I asked her for bologny,
But it made me think of Phonie;
So I went and paid my money
Way down in Bubser's hall;"

but his whole frame quivered with wrathful indignation, and he stood "*auribus erectis*" when he heard his euphonious cognomen made to rhyme with such a slang word as "bologny."

He thought that his best friends had slandered him by using his name in such a connection, but as his outraged but magnanimous nature disdained to seek a petty revenge by gently but forcibly inserting his sharply pointed teeth into the polished boots of his traducers, he determined to disregard the offence, and present his claims to notice where they would be recognized and brought before the public. And this we found was the reason why he had invaded our sanctum on that memorable afternoon. After a considerable beating around the bush, or rather around our pedal extremities, he mustered courage to ask us to clothe in proper language and render fit for the public ear, the following facts relating to his individual career, alleging as an excuse for not writing himself, that although he might be rather inexperienced in such matters, he still considered it too egotistical to engage personally in publishing anything that related to his own history.

Having had a long acquaintance with the canine individual in question we were on that account more able to act upon the hints and suggestions which he threw out, and even when

his memory failed him for the time being we found that we could awaken it by dint of repeated suggestions.

There comes to us from the dim recollections of the past the scene of two youths trudging along a suburban road through a blinding snow-storm, and carrying between them a light wicker basket, from which, ever and anon, the most heart-rending cries were emitted. These cries proceeded from the infant windpipe of Phonie, who had been rudely torn from his mother's care, and was thus testifying his hearty disapproval of the outrageous act. He continued to utter these piteous wails until he arrived at his future home, where after having been fed on the fat of the land, he soon yielded to the persuasions of Morpheus, and forgot for awhile his childish sorrows in calm repose. From that time forth he increased in stature and wisdom, and spent most of his spare moments in desperate encounters with hungry specimens of the feline species who prowled around his dwelling, and on moonlight nights executed the most thrilling and difficult operatic airs from the neighboring ridge-poles and fences. His pugilistic propensities, we are sorry to say, were not of the bravest nature, and in many of his battles he often afforded an active illustration of that old but apt saying that "discretion is the better part of valor," retiring from the scene of conflict in good order, but with a firm determination to do better in succeeding contests.

In due course of time Phonie was introduced into the sacred precincts of the college, but since he was rather a singular species of the genus student, he was not subjected to any very stringent rules, attending only such of the collegiate exercises as he chose, and on account of this he never made his appearance in the recitation rooms except under very peculiar circumstances, or for some special purpose. Often his pedal appendages would be neatly tied up in stiff brown paper; his caudal extremity served in the same manner; and then he him-

self would be carried by some fun-loving student to the recitation room door, and gently propelled within by the application of boot leather *a posteriori*. The effect of this elaborate "get up" was that he assumed such a ridiculous gait when walking across the room by permitting his feet to fly off at tangents *à la* windmill at every step he took, that the gravity of the professor and of the whole class was completely overthrown. Occasionally we have the pleasure of meeting him in the philosophical room when the subject of electricity is under consideration, and then being placed upon the electrical stool he immediately shows the effect of that subtile fluid upon the animal system by exhibiting a double row of beautiful teeth, and by a sardonic leer pervading his open countenance.

We think that his moral training has been sadly neglected, not owing however to any fault of his, but from a want of appreciation of his religious instincts on the part of the professors. We distinctly recall to mind one pleasant autumn afternoon when Phonie with one or two of his canine friends passed through the mysterious doors of the chapel and penetrated the region lying beyond. After looking around with a confused air, Phonie snugly seated himself beneath a bench, but unable to endure a sudden but stealthy pressure upon his tail, and being naturally of an inquisitive turn of mind, he started upon an exploring expedition. His tour of observation, however, was quickly ended. He was immediately discovered, pounced upon, carried to the door, and put out in the most summary manner. His feelings being naturally very sensitive he felt exceedingly put out, and vowed on the spot never to attend another chapel except under compulsion.

Three years ago Phonie completed his undergraduate life, and having the impression that since he had been graduated he must necessarily go out into the wide wide world and strive to be an honor to his Alma Mater, he attempted to sever all the pleasant associations formed during that time, and to turn his back upon his numer-

ous friends. He however found it so difficult and distressing that he concluded to remain beneath his collegiate roof, and pursue a post-graduate course. In his intellectual pursuits he did not attain any great proficiency, though his abilities were of no mean order, and on account of his low standing he did not take a very high appointment at his graduation, in fact, he always had the honor of holding the tail-end of his class. Laying aside the question of mental capacity, he was always very popular with his associates in consequence of his waggish propensities, and even if he couldn't "paddle his own canoe" he was fully capable of managing his own bark.

FAME.

In paths of grandest harmony
 The chanting months march 'round,
 And roll through echoing centuries
 A choral hymn profound;
 A noble song of noble deeds
 And men of high renown,
 Of splintered lances, shivered casques,
 And valiant lives laid down;
 A strain that rings with battle cries
 Or sobs with woman's tears,
 That soars with flame-spined saints to God,
 Or thrills with lovers' fears;
 A lordly lay of kingly times,
 And many a splendid name
 Of poet, sage, philosopher;
 A hymn that we call fame.
 To carve upon the cliffs of thought
 The record of thy pen;
 To dwell among the fadeless ones
 Through all the years of men;
 To sit, a monarch, high enthroned
 Above the worldly din;
 This the great guerdon, this the prize
 To strive for, and to win.
 Oh, fame is not a paltry toy,
 A bubble, or a breath;
 Thus man defies mortality
 And proudly spurns at death.

Pervading all our wayward speech
 One God-like tone doth run,
 And human tongues may, speaking right,
 Pronounce the Lord's "Well done."

MINOR MATTERS.

There are sins of omission as well as commission. An error of the latter kind was recently made at the dedicatory exercises of the new High School Building in this city, in not allowing to this college, as an educational institution, an adequate representation in the ceremonies of the occasion. We are informed that President Jackson was asked to make an address, but being absent from the city was obliged to decline the invitation. But when we learn in addition that three members of our faculty occupied seats upon the platform during the entire exercises, but that not the least intimation was given them by the authorities having the ceremonies in charge that a word from the leading educational institution of the city would be acceptable, the sin of omission is unavoidably apparent. The error is the more unpardonable from the fact that one member of our faculty who was present is chairman of the Board of School Visitors, and that another was for some time an instructor in the High School itself.

Another argument in favor of small colleges is seen in an article which appeared in a recent number of the *Courant*. The writer, a graduate of Yale, makes some statements which if not already known are at least not at all flattering or consoling to the excellent conductors of that excellent college. The complaint of the contributor is that in the business of instruction, tutors figure too conspicuously and that the bright professional stars of the Yale galaxy are wont to shine only at long and fixed intervals and some of them at no intervals at all. The writer also laments the want of unity in the systems of teaching especially in classics, and shows that the error lies in the too frequent

change of instructors in the same department. Small colleges with a sufficiency of professors, and few tutors, easily avoid these errors, and while we take it for granted that the facts of the *Courant* contributor are literally true, yet we are compelled to think the writer is somewhat disposed to lean towards the hypercritical side of the question.

Now that our reading-room is fairly under way we beg leave to make a suggestion, which we have more than once had in mind. There has, ever since the letter-carrier system was begun, been considerable difficulty in regard to the delivery of the college letters. There has been no well regulated arrangement concerning the matter, and consequently a good deal of grumbling, not without cause, from those who have failed to receive in season, their much wished for epistles, domestic, financial and antenuptial. To remedy this unpleasant state of things we would suggest that a committee be appointed to wait upon the post-office authorities, and if possible, to obtain their permission to have boxes placed in the reading room both for the delivery and reception of the college mail. We think that some such plan would be suitable to all, and whatever else might happen from the carrying out of the above proposition, we certainly would be able to obtain our letters upon the same day upon which they are delivered, and not be put to the inconvenience of unnecessary delay through the thoughtlessness of those to whom the mail happens to be given.

There! We thought it would come and it has. Ever since Cambridge saw fit to throw open its doors to women we have been anxiously waiting to see what American college of note would be the first to follow its example. We have had our private opinion that Michigan University would be the first to move in this matter, and now we learn that the Regents of this institution have decided to admit women to the privileges of the university, and thus our views

are realized. The cause of this action is no doubt in a measure due to the fact that the university is a State institution, and is a part and parcel of the entire school system of the commonwealth. We do not mean to insinuate that Michigan is nothing more than a high school. Far from it. Its reputation and its character are too well and widely known for that. But it appears to us that the high school idea of co-education of the sexes has overleaped its boundaries and taken the university by storm. We chronicle the fact as one of great interest, especially to nineteenth century reformers, and since so good an educational exponent as Michigan University has undertaken to solve for Americans the much talked-about problem of collegiate co-education, we shall with anxiety await the result of the experiment.

College journalism has become a fixed institution, and as such, we need have no doubts as to its ability to stand, or in the parlance of proverb-quoting writers, to "paddle its own canoe." Within the past year, this branch of newspaper enterprise has prospered exceedingly, and issues which at first considered themselves as just above water now sail with full canvas and a clear prospect ahead. To be sure some have died, but they were only those which did not deserve to live. None but wide-awake, lively college papers are worthy of support, and it is to us a conundrum which we have given up long since, how so many college newspapers as are now issued find sufficient pecuniary subsistence upon which to exist. That fact is true, but trite, to which a metropolitan publication has recently given utterance, that the best way to learn to use the English language, is to write for the columns of some newspaper. We endorse this sentiment fully, and are also glad to notice that the same journal considers that "a good college newspaper is worth more for the moral and gentlemanly tone of college life than a library of by-laws and an army of faculty spies."

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CONTENTS.

VOL. III, No. I.—JAN. 25, 1870.

	PAGE.
In Winter,	1
Instruction in English,	1
Aquatica,	2
Favors for a Friend,	4
Fame,	6
Minor Matters,	6
College and Campus,	8
Twin Topics,	9
The English Department,	10
Personals,	11
Particles,	11
College Clippings,	12
Exchanges,	13
Advertisements,	14, 15, 16

NOTICE.

In order that hereafter each volume of the
TABLET may commence with the year, it has
been considered best that the numbers for 1869,
though constituting parts of two volumes, should
be bound as one, and with a view to this pur-
pose a title page and index for these issues have
been prepared and will next month be forwarded
to our subscribers. Volume two contains only
five numbes. As will be noticed above, the
third volume begins with the present month.
All subscriptions will end with the June number

COLLEGE AND CAMPUS.

Hardly have we had time as yet, to look about
us and mark any changes which during the
vacation past have been made.

The Professor of English, who in Decem-
ber last was prevented by sickness from at-
tending to the duties of his department, has,
we are happy to state, recovered, and mapped
out an interesting list of topics for themes to
be written this term.

Literary improvement and recreation will
soon be held out in most tempting array, as the
reading-room has been put in excellent order,
but of that we refer to another column. We
always thought that Brownell Hall was the
most active and wide awake of all our build-
ings; ever since we occupied a room in it,
have we entertained this opinion. It is a meet
place for the location of such a public-spirited
enterprise as the reading-room, and although
it boasts not of a literary society hall like that
which Jarvis contains, still it has been the scene
of deeds which render it pre-eminently *the*
building in which to locate one's self for a col-
lege course.

Unfortunately the cold winter weather has
prevented any further grade demonstrations, and
we are constrained to think that we shall be
obliged to wait until spring, to have those pretty
little rural scenes enacted, the "ploughshare in
the mould," etc.

As scarcely any mention has heretofore been
made in the TABLET and other papers of the
Brownell Statue, we would like to say a word
or two in regard to it, but trooping thoughts
crowd upon us.

Previous Editors of our paper informed their
readers that *ten* numbers would constitute one
volume: the present board take pleasure in an-
nouncing, that, owing to the flattering recep-
tion the TABLET has received during the past
year, and being well assured of success in their
undertaking, it is their intention to enlarge the
publication. A volume will now be composed
of twelve numbers, including the COMMENCE-

MENT EXTRA; the latter will be increased to a size uniform with the regular numbers, and will contain much valuable reading matter, in addition to the very attractive contents usually published at that time. If it is a virtue to owe no man anything, it is, if not equally becoming, at all events very kind, to owe the TABLET nothing. We trust this is lucid, if it is not, a clearer demonstration can be had on application at our office, or Box 1048 which is all the same, as we are apt to be placed in one if subscribers fail to do their duty.

The pleasanter term of the year is before us, and though the clashing of pens at chemical lectures will sound harshly on our ears, and though we will fail to see that pretty line of pretty maidens, which, guarded fore and aft by faithful proctors, was wont in former days, as we're told, to wend its way across the campus to the gloomy depths of the laboratory and sit by the hour at experimental lectures in the midst of "odors from Araby blest," though we will miss this touching sight, yet, as we look forward, a long perspective line of pleasures awaits us. That the "Twenty-Second" comes not in Lent, is generally known, and therefore comment is unnecessary. Eloquence, waxed-floor, music, spreads; a simple synopsis. The Easter-recess, though short, affords a pleasant release from college duties. Soon after the "Prize Version Declamations" will offer attractions for *friends* in the cabinet hall. Faintly but sadly we see in the dim distance the pleasures of Class Day; faintly, for as yet June roses have not begun to bloom; sadly, we all know why. Commencement Day is far off with its diplomas and its farewells.

But our ink is nearly congealed, and our sanctum has been devoid of fire for the past four weeks, and as we failed to bring with us our "coat with a fur lining," necessity compels us to lay aside that which is mightier than the sword, for the present at least, or at all events, until some more fitting and comfortable time.

TWIN TOPICS.

We had so often looked in at the windows of our embryo reading room without finding anything to cheer us in the prospect that we hardly expected to see any signs of progress when, a few days ago, we peered through the accustomed pane. But we found that if we had been indolent during the vacation the carpenters had not. The desks were finished, and appeared to be waiting only for the periodicals which should repose upon them. In short, after the various publications have been subscribed for, after chairs have been purchased and the preparations for lighting completed, our reading room will be ready for occupancy. May these things be pushed forward with all haste; we have waited for a considerable time and are not disposed to possess our souls in *patience* much longer.

We need not say that the TABLET rejoices heartily in this prospective addition to our conveniences; no project of recent birth has taken so strong a hold upon our sympathies, and none has met with more willing assistance at our hands. We expect to place our regular exchanges upon file for the use of the students, and, in addition, shall present the reading room with *Lippincott's*, *London Society*, and *Appleton's Journal*. With this and the assistance promised from other quarters, the amount to be expended in subscriptions will be considerably reduced, and that sum we hope to see judiciously laid out in procuring the more expensive periodicals, especially those published in France, Germany, and England. There is nothing to prevent Trinity from having a most excellent reading room, and, so long as energy and judgment are, as we know they will be, employed in the management of its affairs, our college will be inferior to none in this department.

But while reading room matters are advancing so prosperously, we have not been able to discover that any steps have been taken toward transferring the books of the society libraries from their present situations to the shelves of the college library. Why are we kept waiting

so long for this "consummation devoutly to be wished?" We can see no adequate reason for delay, and should suppose that the authorities of a library so badly provided with books of any practical use as is that of Trinity would be only too glad to obtain some addition to their collection. In this case, however, the often quoted dictum of a certain magnate to the effect that "students are the last persons whose opinions should be consulted in selecting volumes for the college library," appears not yet to have been abandoned. Let us have comparatively modern and readable books, we ask, and we certainly cannot be blamed if, seeing no disposition to comply with so reasonable a request, we feel disposed to be a little cross. When the thing can be done at so trifling an expense, it is far from cheering to behold such continual inactivity.

Another request which we made three months or more ago and to which, so far as we are informed, no attention whatever has been paid, was that the library should be opened twice a week. We sincerely hope that an entirely new order of things may be inaugurated this term. It may be a somewhat startling but, we honestly think, it is not an exaggerated statement, that at few colleges in the country are the wishes of the undergraduates in regard to library matters so ill complied with as at Trinity. Our library is opened only half an hour in a week, a time wretchedly inadequate for the needs of the students. At Yale, to be sure only the Senior and Junior classes are admitted, but the library is open for their use five hours *daily*. We have noticed in several of our exchanges during the past few months references to the management of the various college libraries, and in almost every case these are opened at least twice a week, and for an hour each time. Perhaps we should feel thankful for admission to the library privileges at all, and, indeed, we do; but so long as we are admitted, what is the object in giving us just enough of the privilege to make us wish for

more? There is no part of the college management which cries more loudly for reform than the affairs of the library; may something soon be done to instil greater energy and liberality into that department.

THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT.

For the convenience of undergraduates we insert the list of themes which Professor Johnson has prepared for the present term. We also append to each subject the date on which each essay is due.

SENIORS.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Dante and Milton contrasted as Poets. | February 16. |
| Criticism on "Lady Geraldine's Courtship." | March 16. |
| The Characteristics of Modern Scepticism. | April 13. |
| The Intuitive and Utilitarian Theory of Morals. | May 11. |
| Graduating Oration. | June 1. |

JUNIORS.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| America and England One Hundred Years Hence. | February 17. |
| The Good and the Evils of Enthusiasm. | March 17. |
| Bloodless Revolutions in Government. | April 14. |
| Aristocracy in Europe and in the United States. | May 12. |
| Is Life Insurance Conducted on safe and just Principles? | June 9. |

SOPHOMORES.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| The Life of Goldsmith and its Lessons. | February 17. |
| The Power of Habit. | March 17. |
| The Influence of Gold Discoveries in Civilization. | April 14. |
| The Importance of Attention to Little Things. | May 12. |
| Is it Good Policy to enlarge our Country by Annexation? | June 9. |

PERSONALS.

BARTON, '69. C. C. Barton is principal of the High School at Watertown, Conn.

MULCHAHEY, '42. Rev. James Mulchahey is at present rector of Trinity Church, Toledo, Ohio.

HART, '68. Reginald Hart is studying for the legal profession with his father, Judge Hart, at Mt. Kisco, Westchester Co., N. Y.

WILLARD, '28. J. H. Willard, formerly of the class of '28, is still principal of the Troy Female Seminary, Troy, N. Y.

GREEN, '65. M. B. Green of New York City, has recently changed his law office, and can now be found with S. J. Tilden, Esq., No. 10 Wall St.

GARDNER, '65. H. G. Gardner has removed to New York City and is at present a member of the firm of Gardner, Bacon & Co. 123 Pearl St.

CURTIS, '43. At the recent annual meeting of the Century Club of New York City, Hon. Wm. E. Curtis, LL. D., was elected one of the trustees of that organization for the current year.

FRANKLIN, '54. We regret that we are called upon to record the death of E. C. Franklin, M. D. He died in London, England, a few weeks since, of congestion of the heart. His age was thirty-six.

JENNINGS, '61. Rev. A. B. Jennings, recently rector of the church at Central City, Col., has accepted a call to North Adams, Mass., and intends soon to enter upon the duties of his new parish.

COGGESHALL, '65. Rev. G. A. Coggeshall was ordained to the priesthood in the early part of last autumn by Bishop Clark, (R. I.) and has resigned the assistant rectorship of St. Stephen's, Providence, to assume charge of the parish at Greenville, R. I.

PARTICLES.

Won't some one ask us if we've had a pleasant vacation?—The college bell gave us its New Year's greeting on Thursday evening last.—Boating men congratulate themselves on the prospect of an early season in which to commence their aquatic exercises.—Robert's Opera House has during the past week, presented us with very acceptable programmes of theatrical entertainments.—Until Easter, morning prayers will be held at half past eight o'clock and the first recitation at nine o'clock.—Those students who purchased season tickets to the rink are disposed to consider the investment as rather of an unprofitable nature.—There are urgent calls for the Class-Day Committee of Sixty-Nine at the office of the Charter Oak livery stable.—Alumni will please take notice that Commencement occurs this year one week later than usual.—The undergraduates who received Christmas presents from the faculty have complied with the conditions on which they were bestowed.—It is rumored that Tutor Hart will go abroad at the end of the present term.—A number of the alumni are talking up the subject of a soldiers' monument. We trust it will amount to something.—Is the cabinet floor to be waxed for the Twenty-Second? Seniors, see to it!—The Calithumpian band will soon reorganize for the Spring campaign.—Each Senior has ordered a gross of pens of Brown & Gross, preparatory to copying the chemical lectures.—Have all of Seventy-One been initiated? If not, why not?—"Up in a Balloon" has given place to "Shoo Fly!" which to say the least is crowding the season.—The musical inefficiency of our chapel organ has become organic.—A wandering lunatic recently mistook the College for the Insane Retreat.—How soon will the Euterpeans give us our promised concert? *She* will be very happy to attend.—The bulletin board is bored by the manner in which it has been noticed.

COLLEGE CLIPPINGS.

BROWN.

Boating is looking up, and the *Brunonian* is endeavoring to stir up aquatic enthusiasm.

An excellent portrait of President Sears has just been finished, and will soon be placed in its position in Rhode Island Hall.

The College gymnasium is appreciated, and somebody is "resolved, at whatever cost, to have the *mens sana in sans corpore*."

Commencement exercises will hereafter take place at the close of the Spring term in June, instead of at the beginning of the Fall term in September.

Chapel music is not harmonious. The antiquated musical machine of a parlor organ is regarded as a nuisance, and the faculty have been importuned to furnish a new instrument.

CORNELL.

The faculty "dropped" thirty-five students at the close of last term.

The new Register will soon be issued, and will contain over one hundred and forty pages.

Masons are engaged in cutting stone for the McGraw building, and the work will be vigorously pushed forward early in the Spring.

January 11, Founders Day, was celebrated by a suspension of collegiate exercises and an evening dance which the *Era* calls a "tip of the light fantastic."

A Professor, whose mathematics is better than his English, spells definitions "Deffinitions." We agree with the university organ that it would be well to have a few lessons in orthography.

DARTMOUTH.

Miss Bryant, of Boston, has established a library fund of \$6,000.

President Smith is suffering from ill health, and has retired from active duty.

The college has eighty scholarships, yielding from \$60 to \$100 each, which are appropriated for the benefit of needy students.

All the trustees of the institution are over sixty years of age, and the Alumni desire some younger men in the board.

HARVARD.

The *Advocate* closed its eighth volume on the 18th of the current month.

"Fair Harvard" is receiving severe comments and criticisms at the hands of Cambridge undergraduates.

Boating matters, financially, are not in a flourishing condition, and students of an aquatic turn of mind are endeavoring to raise the necessary amount of cash.

The Freshmen welcomed the New Year with interesting ceremonies. The scene was enlivened by music, and the "run round the tree" was the best within the recollection of the present college generation.

MICHIGAN.

The *Chronicle* takes the *Advocate* to task for using bad grammar and poor English.

The average age of the classes graduated at the university is a little over twenty-three years.

Two professional students spent their time during the recent holidays in sawing wood for the institution.

The vote of the Regents on the admission of women to University privileges was seven to one in favor of the measure.

The *Chronicle* has a well written article on "Women in the University," and is not disposed to consider the subject in a very favorable light, justly remarking that "the problem relating to the joint instruction of men and women is one of those whose solution has not yet been obtained."

PRINCETON.

The winter term opened on the 12th of this month, with an accession of thirty new students.

Dickinson hall is to be finished by the first of next August.

The Bonner-Marquand gymnasium was dedicated on the 13th inst. The exercises were of a very interesting character. The gymnasium is built of brown stone, with French roof and towers. It cost \$40,000.

RUTGERS.

The late James S. Todd by his will has given \$500 for a scholarship.

Rockefeller, of '73, was the successful competitor in the Freshman Prize Declamations.

The following is a list of the secret fraternities of the college. Delta Phi, Zeta Psi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Chi Phi and—Anti-Secret—Delta Upsilon.

WESLEYAN.

The *Argus* is disposed to poke fun and criticism at *Yang Lang*.

The base ball portion of the undergraduate community are making efforts with the aid of the alumni to obtain suitable grounds on which the college nines may practice.

The Sophomore Exhibition took place December 15th. Fourteen speakers took part in the exercises. A vulgar and witless mock scheme made its appearance during the evening, much to the disgust of the students in particular, and the audience in general.

The Boston Wesleyan Club held their annual reunion at the Revere House on the evening of December 29th. Judge Pitman, of the class of '45, presided, and an alumni quintette enlivened the occasion with excellent music.

YALE.

The foundation of Scroll and Key hall has been laid. Prescott, the college photographer, has built an addition to his gallery.

A freshman has made an ass of himself by challenging a New Haven baker to fight a duel.

The Scientifics have raised money enough to buy a new shell, and appointed a committee to purchase it. Two crews will enter the Spring races from this department.

A jolly-go-easy student demolished a street lamp the other evening—just for the fun of the thing, you know—and was fined \$15 and costs. He will probably graduate prematurely.

Spoon politics in '71 remain *in statu quo*, and the class are gratuitously advised to conduct the election in accordance with the principles of Mr. Hare's plan of minority representation.

The lucky men in the recent Sophomore prize debates were: BROTHERS—1. C. C. Deming; 2. J. H. Hincks; 3. T. R. Bacon; LINONIA—1. D. S. Holbrook; 2. F. S. Dennis; 3. L. E. Curtiss. In the Senior debates the following were the successful competitors: BROTHERS—1. T. J. Tilney; 2. E. P. Clark and E. G. Selden; 3. G. Chase and E. Shepherd. LINONIA—1. J. W. Andrews; 2. H. B. Mason; 3. C. McC. Reeve and E. J. Edwards.

EXCHANGES.

We return thanks to the Editors of the *Cornell Era* for giving a more extended circulation to our review of "Fair Harvard."

The *College Review* for January contains an able and interesting article on Trinity, the first in its proposed series of college sketches, and also has a very good steel engraving of the late Dr. Wayland with an account of his life. The paper is an excellent one, and thoroughly deserves all the success of which it gives evidence. The *College Courant* must look to its laurels, especially in the matter of illustrations.

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